



REPORT

ISSUE 88

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

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NEXT GENERAL MEETING JULY 28TH - NOMINATIONS DUE FOR 1972 PSRMA OFFICERS

PSRMA's next important General Meeting is to be held on the evening of July 28th, a Friday, in the La Sala Room of Balboa Park's House of Hospitality. This meeting is especially important as nominations for the 1972 slate of PSRMA officers will be received, and closed, that evening.

All nominations may be sent to Secretary John Hathaway (4215 Dwight Street, San Diego, 92105) prior to the July 28th gathering, or may be presented from the floor at the meeting.

If you are interested in helping to lead PSRMA, you can nominate yourself. In a voluntary organization such as ours it is not possible to personally ask each and every member if he would like to help out or run for an office, so a little personal initiative is desired...and necessary.

The offices open for nomination include President, Vice-President - General Manager, Secretary, Treasurer, Board Member at Large, and representatives to the Review Committee. All nominees must be 1972 Regular members in good standing by the time of the October elections.

A little aside to PSRMA officers: the by-laws state at least five Association officers must be present at General Meetings if business (such as nominations) is to be conducted....

George Geyer is preparing the evening's entertainment, and he promises a good show of rail oriented activities. He is currently trying to secure a guest speaker, and will have more details to give next month. For an evening of good entertainment, mark down July 28th.

LIBERATION MIKADO - A REPRIEVE H. Chalmers Kerr, Jr.

Word was received from Monsieur Segalat, president of the French National Railway, by letter dated May 2, 1972, stating: "...the S.N.C.F. understands your difficulty in raising the necessary funds for shipping the 141R1199." He added he was granting the Association an 18 month extension on the deadline for movement of the locomotive.

This generosity will give us a breathing spell. The full 18 months can't be used for fund raising entirely. Part of the time must be reserved for shipment preparations, Customs requirements, State-side movement, storage needs, etc.

As a part of the renewed fund raising effort, a one-sixth page ad has been placed with Trains magazine, probably to run in August or September 1972 issues. News releases have been sent to Life, Time, CBS, NBC, ABC, and other news media. With a little luck and a properly directed appeal I am confident that this project will be a success. Fund raising brochures are available. If any member has a lead on possible interested firms or individuals, please let me know. My phone number is 291-4787.

A VIEW FROM THE CUPOIA H. Chalmers Kerr, Jr., President

MONEY IN THE BANK - As of April 30, 1972 PSRMA had \$3,178.96 cash on hand. Not bad for the early part of the year. A detailed Treasurer's Report will appear in an early issue of REPORT. About forty percent of this modest amount is already committed to anticipated overhead items,

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e.g., insurance premiums, lease fees, start-up funds for Puerto Penasco 1973, etc. Hopefully fifty percent of the total can be held in reserve for LAND....

SPEAKING OF LAND - The special Ad Hoc Committee is moving ahead...in low gear. Investigations are still underway on properties in the Campo-Tierra del Sol areas of San Diego County. New information has just been received about possibilities in the Escondido area, and would you believe it...in the metropolitan San Diego area. I can't report any details at this time, but please watch this space for future announcements. Should the museum site selected be located along the Oceanside-Escondido branch of the Santa Fe, the Crystal Cilica Company of Oceanside has generously donated us up to 70,000 cubic yards of fill material...how about that!

MAY 5TH GENERAL MEETING- Sorry that I did not see more of you out that evening. The program was one of the better ones we have had in a long time. Actually, two different "features" were presented. First, Capt. Ken Reynard, Curator and General Manager of the Star of India for the San Diego Maritime Museum Association, presented those gathered with a flash-back of the development of the Star of India as a major San Diego historical artifact and visitor attraction. Much-too much information was presented to repeat here. But, the parallels with PSRMA's growing pains are very informative. A few highlights are in order:

About ten years ago, the Star was just barely a hulk down by the old Coronado Ferry landing. The Port District said either fix the ship up, or tow it to sea
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P.O. Box 12096
San Diego
California 92112

and sink her. Well, the Maritime Association got off the dime and hired Capt. Reynard to take on the task of restoring the ship. Bank and private loans were obtained totaling over \$80,000. Fortunately, these loans were low or no interest and were open ended, pay it back if you can, but if you can't...ok.

After the Star was partially restored and safe for the public, she was relocated to the present location. In less than five years the entire indebtedness was retired and now the Star of India pays her own way, and has resulted in \$50,000 "profit" for the Maritime Association to apply to future museum development and acquisitions. IF THEY CAN DO IT, PSRMA CAN TOO!

The second part of the program was presented by John Cranston. As many of you are aware, John has travelled extensively around the world and has a fantastic collection of railway and streetcar slides. This time John presented material from the Isle of Man, England, Wales, Fiji Islands, New Zealand, and Australia. Future programs will again include John's travels. I estimate he has material for a minimum of six hours of programming!

JULY 28TH GENERAL MEETING - Don't forget this time: same place - House of Hospitality in Balboa Park at 7:30 p.m.

A SHORT NOTE FROM THE EDITOR
John Hathaway

This issue is a little short because the editor is getting ready to leave on vacation. The second half of the Amtrak article will appear next month. We'll also be back to our regular size of four pages instead of this abbreviated size.

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